Tab 81

200 N. SPRING STREET CITY HALL, ROOM 410, LOS ANGELES, CA 90012 (213) 485-3451 PHONE (213) 485-8907 FAX



DISTRICT OFFICE 163 S. AVE 24 ROOM 202 LOS ANGELES, CA 90031 (213) 485-0763 PHONE (213) 485-8908 FAX

ED P. REYES Councilmember, First District

June 26, 2008

California Transportation Commission Lincoln Plaza, Auditorium, First Floor 400 P Street Sacramento, CA 95814

RE: CTC Proposition 1B Highway-Railroad Crossing Safety Account, City of Los Angeles Applications, Riverside Drive and North Spring Street Grade Separations.

Dear Commissioners,

The City of Los Angeles is pleased to submit its applications for Proposition 1B Highway-Railroad Crossing Safety Account (HRCSA) funding.

We are submitting two applications: the Riverside Drive Grade Separation Replacement project and the North Spring Street Grade Separation Reconstruction project, each for \$5.0 million of Proposition 1B funding.

Both projects are on the CPUC 2008-2009 priority list and have planned railroad contributions.

The Riverside Drive project will increase the vertical and lateral clearance to the bridge, improve seismic safety and eliminate the pier wall within the railroad right-of-way, which will be an improvement for the UP and Metrolink railroads.

The project will also improve circulation by reconfiguration of the intersection of Riverside Drive, Figueroa Street, and San Fernando Road into a roundabout and will improve pedestrian safety and link currently disconnected segments of the City's bicycle route and path system.

The purpose of the North Spring Street project is to widen the bridge to accommodate two lanes of traffic in each direction, construct a new median and turning lane, as well as sidewalks and bike lanes on both sides of the bridge. While widening, the bridge will be seismically retrofitted for vehicular and railroad safety. Both the Metrolink and Union Pacific trains pass through this grade separation.

The North Spring Street Bridge is one of the aesthetic arch bridges built by City of Los Angeles over Los Angeles River in 1920s. It is a monumental bridge and eligible for National Historic Register. The historical characteristics of the bridge will be preserved and restored in this project.

Both the Riverside Drive and the North Spring Street projects are designed to relate to the Los Angeles River Revitalization Master Plan and have a lot of community support. Your funding would leverage our local investment in the LA River improvements.

The City of Los Angeles requests that the Commission fund both of these important grade separation projects at \$5.0 million each. If you have any questions please contact Jill Sourial of my staff at 213-473-7001.

Sincerely,

ED P. REYES

Councilmember, First District.